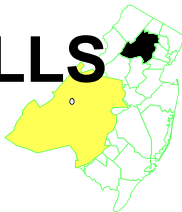


ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP WELLS NEW JERSEY

EPA ID# NJD980654214



EPA REGION 2
CONGRESSIONAL DIST. 11
Morris County
Rockaway Township

Site Description

The Rockaway Township Wells site is a 2-square-mile well field area containing a cluster of three municipal wells within 100 feet of each other. In 1979 and 1980, the wells were found to contain a variety of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Groundwater contamination in the area appears to have resulted from several sources. Monitoring wells in the area indicated widespread contamination by chlorinated solvents and fuel components. In 1980, a treatment system for the wells was installed and included an air stripping system and an activated carbon system. Only one of the three wells is currently in operation. The Valley Fill aquifer is the only water supply source capable of meeting the Township's water demand.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through State and potentially responsible party actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/01/82
Final Date: 09/01/83

Threats and Contaminants



Groundwater is contaminated with VOCs including trichloroethylene (TCE). Inhaling volatilized organics released into indoor air during water use and ingesting and direct contact with contaminated water were potential health threats prior to the installation of the water treatment system.



Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the groundwater contamination and the sources of the contamination.

Response Action Status



Groundwater: The EPA and the State have conducted a study into the nature and extent of groundwater contamination at the site. The study identified the contaminants of concern and evaluated remediation alternatives. EPA selected a remedy for the contaminated groundwater in an October 1993 Record of Decision (ROD). The remedy includes extraction of contaminated groundwater, air stripping and reinjection of treated groundwater, and replacement of the Rockaway Township air stripping system.

A potentially responsible party (PRP) replaced the air stripping system with a new air stripping system in May 1995, as called for in the ROD. The PRP is also performing the remedial design of the groundwater extraction and treatment portion of the remedy, under State direction.



Source Control: Additional investigations were conducted to further delineate potential contamination sources within the Denville Technical Park, from which the groundwater contamination emanates. The state is preparing a proposed plan to address a source area.

Site Facts: Under an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection dated March 13, 1996, the PRP agreed to perform the remedy selected in the 1993 ROD and perform an investigation and potential remediation of the Denville Technical Park. Under the ACO, the PRP has also agreed to pay for the operation and maintenance of the Township's new air stripping system.

Cleanup Progress



(Threat Mitigated by Physical Cleanup Work)

A ROD was signed in October 1993 which selected an extraction and treatment remedy to address the contaminated ground water. The ROD also called for the replacement of the Township's air stripper which was in a deteriorated condition. The PRP replaced the air stripper in May 1995. The State approved the remedial investigation and feasibility study for the source operable unit in August 1999, and is preparing a proposed plan for the source operable unit. The design of the remainder of the ground water remedy is suspended until a ROD is completed for the source operable unit. The design of both remedies will be done concurrently.

Site Repository



Rockaway Township Public Library, 61 Mt. Hope Road, Rockaway Township, N.J. 07866-1699